

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 AID-05

OMB-01 EB-07 /117 W

----- 110833

R 031252Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4564

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 3230

GENEVA FOR WISNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ZA

SUBJECT: PRESS HIGHLIGHTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA - DECEMBER 3

REF: LUSAKA 3221

SUMMARY: BOTSWANA'S REFUGEE PROBLEM AND HEIGHTENED SECURITY CONCERNS, THE ARRIVAL OF ZIPA CONTIGENT IN GENEVA, AND KHAMA'S HOSPITALIZATION RECEIVED FRONT PAGE ATTENTION IN DEC3 PRESS.
END SUMMARY:

1. TIMES OF ZAMBIA CORRESPONDENT IN GABORONE REPORTS ARRIVAL OF 1,500 REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA, PRIMARILY AS RESULT OF SOWETO. TIMES EDITORIAL PLEADS FOR SOMETHING TO BE DONE TO HELP BOTSWANA MEET THE STRAIN CAUSED BY THE REFUGEES. PRACTICAL AID MUST BE
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FORTHCOMING "BEFORE BOTSWANA'S BACK SNAPS UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE

REFUGEE PROBLEM."

2. TIMES CORRESPONDENT ALSO COVERS FULL ALERT PROCLAIMED ALONG RHODESIA-BOTSWANA BORDER NEAR FRANCISTOWN. POLICE MANNING ROAD BLOCKS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SHOOT AT TIRES OF CARS FAILING TO OBEY ORDERS TO STOP. WOUNDING OF SMALL GIRL (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED BY EMBASSY GABORONE) BY POLICE IS NOTED.

3. ARRIVAL OF ZIPA DELEGATION IN GENEVA IS REPORTED IN BOTH DAILIES. ZIPA LEADERS ARE QUOTED AS SAYING THEY HAVE NOT COME TO GENEVA TO WRECK THE CONFERENCE. THEY ALSO DENIED THERE HAD BEEN FIGHTING BETWEEN SUPPORTERS OF SITHOLE AND MUGABE IN ZANU CAMPS IN MOZAMBIQUE.

4. PRESIDENT KHAMA'S REHOSPITALIZATION TO "READJUST THE LEADS OF HIS PACE MAKER" WAS FRONT PAGED IN TIMES AND DAILY MAIL.
LOW

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